



# Minutes NV COMMUNICATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE

<b>DATE</b>	October 5, 2004
<b>TIME</b>	1:15 pm – 3:00 pm
<b>LOCATION</b>	401 S. Carson Street, Rm 4100 – Carson City 555 Washington St, Rm V4401 – Las Vegas
<b>RECORDER</b>	Maggie Thorne

## ATTENDANCE

Carson City Members	Present	Las Vegas Members	Present
Terry Savage, Chair, Dept of Information Technology	✓	Anthony DeMeo, Nye County	
Robert Chisel, Dept of Transportation		Dennis Cobb, LV Metro Police Dept	
Neil Harris, Elko County Sheriff's Office	✓	Rod Massey, Clark County	✓
Heidi Sakelarios, NV Health Division		Jack Staley, LV Valley Water District	✓
Dave Hosmer Dept of Public Safety	✓	Ronda Hornbeck, Lincoln County	
Dan Newell, City of Yerington	✓		
Ralph Jaeck, City of Reno			
Chris Lake, NV Hospital Association			
Dan Holler, Douglas County			

## Staff

Name	Present	Name	Present
Mark Blomstrom, Dept of Information Technology	✓	Glade Myler, Attorney General's Office	✓
Maggie Thorne, Dept of Information Technology	✓	Dave McTeer Dept of Administration	
Jim Wilson, Clark County/SNACC	✓		

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Terry Savage called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

### II ROLL CALL/MINUTES

The roll call was conducted by Maggie Thorne. Present: 6 members, 0 alternates  
Absent: 8 A quorum was not present.

The minutes from the September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting could not be approved without a quorum so it was postponed till the next meeting.

### **III. DISCUSSION ON COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

Tim Peters, President, Tech Knowledge provided to the members his fourth progress report. He indicated that Tech Knowledge continues to speak to participants regarding getting their survey responses. One thing they discovered was one main office responded for all their jurisdictions (without noting that on the survey) and not letting Tech Knowledge know about it. Tim reported they are now 148 complete. Clark County remains somewhat a problem and Rod Massey indicated he would talk to them. Washoe County is another, but Tim reported they are staying on top of it. Tim also reported the weakest point of response is from State Agencies. Terry asked Mark to bring back a list (from Las Vegas) so that DoIT could assist in getting agencies to respond.

Tim reported (no particular order) that they see a need (from the responses) for :

1. A need for more VHF simplex channels and mutual aid to service both law enforcement and fire.
2. A need for more established in place repeater networks particular for command incident type usage.
3. Common complaint – lack of interoperability with the NHP and various Federal agencies particularly fire due to narrowbanding of the Feds.
4. Found rural agencies have significant operability issues in terms of being able to communicate in the first place – one agency said their tower fell down a year ago and we don't have the money to put it up and therefore can't talk to anyone very much.
5. Large systems don't seem to do very well in the rural areas.
6. 93% of the state's population lives in the State bordering California – we need to be able to coordinate the mutual aid channels with neighboring states so they are the same and they can talk without a gateway.
7. 800 MHz is going to be a big issue long into the future – it appears we need a network of gateways permanently in place to accomplish this and will address the Utah issues.
8. In terms of network and gateway connectivity, there are a number of agencies who are concerned about people showing up without announcement or permission – so we need to look at a large scale network / gateway structure that provides permissions,

Terry asked what the next milestone was in the development of the plan. Tim indicated the finalization of the database, although he felt the database should be an on-going process, but that Tech Knowledge would run with the data they have collected to start development of the plan itself. He felt they have sufficient data to work with. Terry agreed that the database should be an ongoing living process and data that comes in continually will be entered.

Terry asked what the Committee would be looking at next month. Tim said they would be looking at several draft sections of the interoperability plan. Terry mentioned that due to the fact election day is November 2 (regular meeting date of NCSC) that he proposed moving it to November 9th. No members had a problem with the date change.

### **IV. COORDINATION AND STATUS UPDATE**

Mark reported that he heard on September 22th that an announcement was made by a representative from the Dept of Homeland Security that NIMS would become a

requirement of the States and local government as National Instant Management System goes. The Feds will implement this over a period of time ending by fiscal year 2007. Governor Quinn has a letter to specify this information on NIMS.

As of October 1, there is now an office of interoperability and compatibility within the Department of Homeland Security.

**V. GRANTS UPDATES**

Mark Blomstrom reported that the National Governor's Association awarded Nevada one of the five slot grants for the policy academy to work on policy for interoperability. (See prior minutes for backup. The grant is for \$35K that will assist in travel expenses for the Nevada Reps to meet with NGA staff. The focus is on governance. Joe Trella, from NGA would be willing to attend the next NCSC meeting to discuss Nevada's specific objectives of what we expect to get out of this academy participation. Terry said that was very good news and gave Mark credit for his endeavors. Rich Sheldrew asked who was on the core committee. Mark indicated that he is waiting to hear back on the final selection from the Governor. Terry indicated he would get with Mike Hillerby and discuss the matter with him and if he is okay with it, the names would be released to the membership within a week or so.

**VI. LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL UPDATE**

Glade mentioned there would a Homeland Security Meeting for October 28 in Las Vegas but it's still tentative. As far as NIMS, my department is doing their part to disseminate information for adoption throughout the State.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None presented.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm

Future Meeting: November 9, 2004

Minutes are posted on the website at: <http://ncsc.nv.gov/>

Questions Call: 775-684-5859 or email [maggiet@doit.state.nv.us](mailto:maggiet@doit.state.nv.us)

Draft minutes submitted by Maggie Thorne, 10/11/04

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_